

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company
Docket No. D.T.E. 02-24/25
Record Request Response

Record Request No.: AG-RR-26

Referring to the attachment to AG-7-5(E), please describe what the MVRS site license is, and why the company must incur that cost. Also please describe for the record what the internal programming resources costs were, and why the company had to incur those costs.

Response: These two items are related to Automated Meter Reading and the Customer Information System, for both the Electric and Gas Divisions. MV-RS is a PC-based meter reading software that stores, processes and transfers meter reading data. It connects the Customer Information System to the handheld computers used by the meter readers to field-capture meter reading data. MV-RS was initially put into service in 2000 in order to collect non-telemetered interval data as part of the load estimation system started in 1998 and required due to electric restructuring in Massachusetts. The selection and implementation of MV90 in 1998 for collecting telemetered interval data and MVRS in 2000 for collection of non-telemetered interval data was primarily driven by the data requirements coming from the electric market deregulation. FG&E leveraged the functionality of the MV90 and MVRS to collect and process gas consumption data. MV-RS was chosen as replacement for the then existing system (Itron Premier Plus II (PP2)), providing increased capability at a lesser cost.

- a) The MVRS Site License is the cost to upgrade from the previous system to MVRS and to acquire system software user licenses for a number of PC stations.
- b) The Internal Programming Resources Cost is the cost of employee time to evaluate, develop and test the data transfer process of the MV-RS system, specifically the electronic transfer of meter reading routes from the individual handheld units (used by the meter readers) into the Customer Information System. The process resulted in a dependable and seamless interface between the two systems, enabling the transfer of information for accurate and timely billing.

Person Responsible: Mark H. Collin